

**School & Library Network
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
October 27, 1999**

Members Present: Bill Black, Phil Lindley, Reginald Palmer, Linda Lord and Karl Beiser for Gary Nichols, Joanne Steneck, Barry Crommet, Stephen Gilbert, Greg Scott

Members Absent: Barry McCrum

1. Minutes. Minutes from the September 15, 1999 meeting were approved.
2. Status of Americorp's Project GOALS (Go Online with Americorps At Libraries and Schools).

Kathy Schulz, Program Director, reported on the status of the GOALS project. Seven hub site have been selected (Caribou Adult Ed; Northern Penobscot Technical Center (in Lincoln); Bangor Public Library; Lewiston Adult Ed and Technical Center; Merrymeeting Adult Ed (Topsham) and Portland Public Library. Two full time Americorps members will be hired for each site. Ten have been hired so far and come from varied backgrounds. January 2000 is the service delivery start date. Ten additional volunteers will be chosen for each site to contribute 15 hours a week. A website for the project is under construction at www.goalsformaine.org.

3. Report on Connections.

195 T1's have been installed (representing 215 sites) as of October 26, 1999.

4. Report on ATM

Final contract negotiations are taking place. It is expected that 12 sites will have video capabilities by January. Greg Scott will give a full report at the next Board meeting.

5. Report on E-Rate

Edna Cornstock reported that to date \$3.346 million has been received by Maine schools and libraries (compared to \$2.9 million in 1998-1999). It is expected that the application process will be streamlined for the upcoming year: Only one Form 470 will be needed for multiyear contracts. Current plans are to accept 470's anytime after July 1, with the window for 471's beginning November 10 and closing 60 days later. It is expected that all awards will be made by May 2000.

6. Discussion of Process for Phase II of Project

Joanne Steneck suggested using a process similar to that used in creating the original school and library project; a period of time set-aside with interested parties meeting to make a proposal to the Commission. She suggested the Commission could hire a facilitator to begin meeting with interested parties in early March. A general discussion was had concerning procedure and timing. It was agreed that the topic would continue to be discussed at the next meeting. Joanne suggested that any Board Member with ideas about Phase II draft a 1-2 page document and circulate by e-mail prior to the next meeting. An updated address list is available at <http://janus.state.me.us/mpuc/School%20&%20Library/sladvbrd.pdf>.

7. Other

Steve Gilbert announced that he would be stepping down as Internet Service Provider representative on the Board. He will be recommending that the Commission designate John Vedral to take his place. Mr. Vedral was introduced to Board Members. The meeting concluded at 12:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday December 8 at 10:00 am in the Commission's Hearing Room, in Augusta.